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January
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Solar decision won't be the end

By Kelsey Tamborrino, Politico • • Posted 2018-01-17 06:18:22

President Donald Trump will make a consequential decision this week on whether to place trade barriers on solar equipment imports. But while whatever he decides could be a potential setback to the young sector as federal subsidies shrink, it's not likely to be the kiss of death that some advocates had feared. [[read more ...](#)]

U.S. Working Hard to Boost Wind Energy, Adviser Says in Denmark

By Peter Levring, Bloomberg • • Posted 2018-01-17 06:18:52

Donald Trump's administration is working "quite aggressively" to increase the use of renewable energy in the U.S. as part of the president's plans to boost American energy independence, a senior adviser said during a fact-finding visit to Denmark. "The scope of this travel investigation is to learn best practices, technology and learn about certain administrative protocols," Vincent DeVito, the energy counselor to Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke, told reporters in Copenhagen on Tuesday. "We hope to continue our robust expansion of offshore wind in the United States." [[read more ...](#)]

Goodbye, Gov. Christie. Hello, offshore wind turbines?

Saqib Rahim and Benjamin Storrow, E&E News reporters • • Posted 2018-01-17 06:19:07

Incoming New Jersey Gov.-elect Phil Murphy (D) campaigned as the anti-Christie. But when it comes to offshore wind, the state's new leader may want to thank his predecessor. Gov. Chris Christie (R), who left office yesterday, stalled offshore wind development in the Garden State for years, but the delay may actually have benefited the industry. After rapid expansion in Europe, costs are falling, and analysts say North America looks increasingly poised for a wind boom at sea. [[read more ...](#)]

FERC commissioners hail decision on Perry grid plan

Sam Mintz, E&E News reporter • • Posted 2018-01-17 06:20:27

The decision last week by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to unanimously reject a Department of Energy proposal to compensate coal and nuclear plants in certain markets upheld the traditional independence of the agency, two commissioners said today. Both Democrat Cheryl LaFleur and Republican Neil Chatterjee called the order, which along with turning down DOE's directive opened a new proceeding to explore resilience in different regions, "FERC-like." [[read more ...](#)]

Transmission needed as companies turn to renewables — report

Sam Mintz, E&E News reporter • • Posted 2018-01-17 06:19:38

"By mid- to late 2018, 20 percent of our global footprint will come from renewables," said Rob Threlkeld, GM's global manager of renewable energy. "It provides direct bottom-line benefits. It's low-price and stable, both of which are very valuable." But as more companies like GM turn to wind and solar, renewable energy advocates are warning policymakers and grid operators that more investment in transmission infrastructure is needed to match the growing demand. [[read more ...](#)]

Transmission Needed to Meet Corporate America's Growing Demand for Renewable Power

By Kevin O'Rourke, Wind Foundation • • Posted 2018-01-17 06:19:58

Big companies are increasingly signing deals to buy wind and solar power, and their large and growing demand may exceed the capacity of existing and planned transmission lines – yet transmission planners aren't taking this into account as they draw up their future plans. That's according to a new report by the Wind Energy Foundation [[read more ...](#)]

Farm Groups Meet to Examine Role of Agriculture in Building Climate Resiliency

By Chris Clayton, DTN/Progressive Farmer • • Posted 2018-01-17 06:20:55

Farm organizations are beginning to talk about the evolution of climate-smart agriculture and the need to ensure the U.S. remains at the table as the United Nations begins developing an agricultural framework for climate change. While the Trump administration has sought to peel back Obama-era policies on climate change, some agricultural leaders see the need for the U.S. to remain involved on global climate strategies. [[read more ...](#)]

Luring electric vehicle buyers with swift charging, roller-skating

By Camille von Kaenel, E&E News reporter • • Posted 2018-01-17 06:21:18

Would-be electric vehicle buyers still suffer from "range anxiety," the fear that engines will sputter as drivers scramble to find charging stations. Another turn-off: Charging those vehicles can take hours. Automakers and technology companies are trying to kick all that stigma to the curb. [[read more ...](#)]

Trump wants to lead on 'clean coal.' Here's what that means

Jean Chemnick, E&E News reporter • • Posted 2018-01-17 06:21:34

If the Trump administration has a solution to the climate problem, it's that the world should use "clean" fossil fuels. President Trump and his team spent last year celebrating U.S. leadership on cutting-edge coal and natural gas technologies. It sometimes drew scoffs, especially at international gatherings. Allies abroad felt a sense of whiplash, seeing the United States go from a leader on cutting greenhouse gases to a salesman for the fuels that release them. [[read more ...](#)]

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